

The Church in Warden Hill

AGM IS TODAY - AT 12.00 NOON and will be held at St. Christopher's, or Zoom in via: <https://zoom.us/join> with meeting ID: 842 3024 0380 (there will be a waiting room, so those joining will need to use their full name to Join). Nomination forms for Churchwardens and ECC Members are available in the entrance room. They can be handed in to Richard Neale or at the meeting to Revd Gary Grady. Paper copies of the reports are available at the back of church or on the church website.

APCM is postponed until July.

TRACK AND TRACE SLIPS

It is of great help if you bring in slips of paper with your name and phone number on each Sunday and place them in the box provided. There is also a QR code which you can scan, using the mobile phone app, in all of our buildings.

OPEN FOR PRAYER

St. Christopher's is open to visit for prayer on a **Wednesday** from 2-4pm. A max. of 6 persons are allowed in at any one time and there is 2m social distancing. Thank you to all who have stewarded thus far and to all who have visited since reopening.

FOODBANK

Contributions are always very welcome for those in need; the collecting box is at the back of the church.

LANTERN - MAY ISSUE

Alison says-

Dear Contributors,

I look forward to receiving some items, pictures etc. for the May Lantern. The final deadline will be Friday 23rd April, but as usual please send articles sooner if possible.

Any details of events/ meetings that may be restarting would be very welcome.

Thank you to those of you who sent me items for the last few months.

I look forward to the end of lock down!

Arrangements for Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child, Baptism, Confirmation, Banns of Marriage, etc., should be made with Revd Gary Grady or Revd Iain McLaren

If you are aware of anyone who is ill, in hospital, or in need of a pastoral visit please contact Clergy, Elders or Readers.

Safeguarding Officer: Debbie Cypher

If you have anything for the Grapevine please send it to

Edna Willox (grapevine@tcivh.org.uk Tel 510773) by midday on Wednesday.

Church website: www.tciwh.org.uk



The Church in Warden Hill
(Anglican & URC)

Welcome



THE GRAPEVINE 18th APRIL 2021 THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Morning Worship will be held at St. Christopher's at 10.30am and will be led by Rachel Tarling

Readings: Acts 3: 12-19

Luke 24: 36b-48

Hymns:

672. Thine be the glory

435. Low in the grave he lay

586. Open my eyes that I may see

716. We have a gospel to proclaim

The Collect

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer will be held at 9am at St. Christopher's on a Tuesday and at St. Peter's on a Thursday. It will be livestreamed each weekday via www.facebook.com/pipandjims or www.stpetersleck.org

Services for April

18th	10.30am	Morning Worship	Rachel Tarling
25th	10.30am	Holy Communion	Revd Gary Grady

And May

2nd	10.30am	Morning Worship	Roy McBane
9th	10.30am	URC Communion	Revd Iain McLaren
16th	10.30am	Morning Worship	Tamsyn Jenkins
23rd	10.30am	Communion	Revd Gary Grady
30th	10.30am	Morning Worship	Rachel Tarling

The Church in Warden Hill

LETTER FROM REVD IAIN

‘[Jesus] said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”’

(Luke 24: 46-48)

The Church was founded on the testimony of witnesses. The apostles were able to give first-hand accounts of encountering Jesus both before and after his resurrection. The credibility of their eyewitness accounts was such as to persuade many who had had no prior experience of Jesus to believe in him. The Church has been sustained by the testimony of witnesses. The word ‘martyr’ is derived from the Greek word meaning ‘witness’. The original martyrs were people who were prepared to give witness to their Christian faith, even when threatened with persecution. It was only later that martyrdom became associated with suffering death on account of faith in Christ.

The Church is still sustained by the testimony of witnesses. Of course, there are no eyewitnesses alive today who can claim to have walked, talked and eaten with Jesus. If we believed in a Jesus who lived and died two thousand years ago, then that would be a problem. However, we believe in a Jesus who is still alive and active through his Holy Spirit. We can see evidence of Jesus at work today in stories of healing and answered prayer. To be a witness to Christ today means speaking about how we have experienced him in our lives. No special training is required to be a witness. You just need to give an honest account of what you have seen, heard or experienced. Some years ago the Back To Church Sunday initiative encouraged churchgoers simply to invite a friend or neighbour to accompany them to church one Sunday. However, we don’t need to wait for a special Sunday to tell other people why we believe in Jesus. Whenever we explain to other people why Jesus is important for us, then we are acting as witnesses to Christ. Let us be alert to the opportunities Christ gives us to give testimony to our faith in him.

Yours in Christ,
Iain

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PLEASE PRAY FOR all staff and children as they return to schools/playgroup after the Easter holiday.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR those we know who are sick; those who have died and those who mourn the loss of loved ones.

GIVE THANKS FOR our Queen and Royal Family and pray for them in their bereavement. We are grateful for the dedicated service given by The Duke of Edinburgh, and pray:

God of our lives, we give thanks for the life of Prince Philip, for his love of our country and for his devotion to duty. We entrust him now to your love and mercy through our Redeemer Jesus Christ. Amen.

WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS

18th	Davallia Drive & Crythan Walk	22nd	Gardenia & Tayberry Groves
19th	Ferndales Close & Genista Way	23rd	Amaranth Way & Champion Park
20th	Justicia Way & Jasmine Way	24th	Japonica & Hillier Drives
21st	The Greenings & Barwick Road	25th	Mimosa Avenue & Salix Court

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES and CELEBRATIONS let’s celebrate together:

Happy birthday if you have a birthday this week and didn’t tell me.

Please let me know of any future birthdays that we can celebrate together.

Brian Miles.

WELCOME TO Fr SEBASTIAN

The South Cheltenham Team are delighted to welcome Fr. Sebastian to the team from 2nd May, whence he will pick up pastoral care responsibilities at St. Stephen’s, Tivoli, for a period of 6-12 months. Fr. Sebastian has served as a curate at Tewkesbury Abbey for the past 3 years and will now be licensed to the South Cheltenham Team. Please join me in welcoming him. Revd Gary

CONGRATULATIONS TAMSYN JENKINS

I am absolutely delighted to inform you that, following a long discernment period (which is usual), Tamsyn has been selected for ordination in the C of E, and will commence training for ministry in September. The training will take place through the regional Cuddesdon theology college (in Gloucester). Tamsyn will remain a part of the South Cheltenham Team during that time, and will be working with me to grow in her ministerial experience across the South Cheltenham churches. Please keep her in your prayers as she begins this amazing adventure. Revd Gary.